

May 5/6, 2007

Study Questions
No Perfect People
Scandalous Grace
II Samuel 11-12
Pastor Bryan Clark

Opening Discussion

1. What makes temptation so powerful?
2. Are you more vulnerable to temptation in times of success or struggle? Why?
3. Does forgiveness mean an absence of discipline or consequences? Why or why not?
4. Does grace ever conflict with our sense of right and wrong? What do we learn from this?

Bible Study

1. Read II Samuel 11. Review the story. What put David in a vulnerable position that night?

When are you most susceptible to temptation?
2. Compare David's progression into sin with Bathsheba with James 1:13-15. What do we learn from this?

When are we most successful in resisting temptation?
3. How does David respond to the message, **"I am pregnant"** (II Samuel 11:5)?

Why do we so often compound our sin with more sin?
4. How did David respond to word that some of his faithful soldiers died with Uriah?

What happens to our moral compass when we find ourselves trying to cover our sin?
5. Why does the text include the editorial comment that what David **"had done was evil in the sight of the LORD"** (II Samuel 11:27)?

Isn't this rather obvious to the reader?
6. Read II Samuel 12:1-23. Identify the hypocrisy in David as he responds to Nathan's story. How can David have such a disconnect between his judgment of the person in Nathan's story and his own sin?

In what ways do we see that same pattern in our own lives?

7. David was clearly told his sins were forgiven when he repented and confessed. Does this mean the consequences of his sins would go away as well? Why or why not?

Do you think Christians sometimes abuse the concept of grace by thinking they can sin and ask forgiveness and there will be no consequences?

8. Read II Samuel 12:24, 25. Does this paragraph seem right to you?

Does this conflict with our sense of what's fair or just?

Doesn't this seem rather scandalous for God to choose the son of Bathsheba and David to be the next King of Israel? (See Matthew 1:6)

What do we learn from this text?

Application

1. Are you living with the consequences of some bad choices?

Do the consequences cause you to question whether or not God has really forgiven you?

2. Can you share a time when God showed up with His scandalous grace when you were neck deep in the consequences for your bad choices?
3. When was the last time you extended such scandalous grace to someone else?